



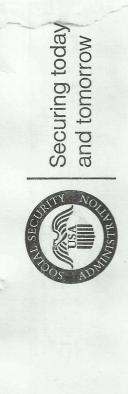
PRESORTED FIRST CLASS

# OFFICIAL BUSINESS PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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Kathleen M Gold 44043 Gadsden Ave Lancaster, CA 93534





### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Office of Disability Adjudication and Review Suite 330 280 S First St San Jose, CA 95113-3005

Date: April 4, 2018

Kathleen Marie Gold 44043 Gadsden Ave Lancaster, CA 93534

### Notice of Dismissal

I am dismissing your request for a hearing. Please read this notice and the enclosed Order of Dismissal.

### If You Disagree With My Order Of Dismissal

If you disagree with my order, you may file an appeal with the Appeals Council. You may also ask me to vacate, or set aside, my order. Asking me to vacate my Order of Dismissal does not extend your time to file an appeal with the Appeals Council.

### How To File An Appeal

To file an appeal, you must ask in writing that the Appeals Council review my Order of Dismissal. You may use our Request for Review form (HA-520) or write a letter. The form is available at www.socialsecurity.gov. Please put the Social Security number shown above on any appeal you file. If you need help, you may file in person at any Social Security or hearing office.



Suspect Social Security Fraud?
Please visit http://oig.ssa.gov/r or call the Inspector General's Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271 (TTY 1-866-501-2101).

Please send your request to:

Appeals Council Office of Disability Adjudication and Review 5107 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041-3255

## Time Limit To File An Appeal

You must file your written appeal within 60 days of the date you get this notice. The Appeals Council assumes you got this notice 5 days after the date of the notice unless you show you did not get it within the 5-day period.

The Council will dismiss a late request unless you show you had a good reason for not filing it on time.

### What Else You May Send Us

You may send us a written statement about your case. You may also send us new evidence. You should send your written statement and any new evidence with your appeal. Sending your written statement and any new evidence with your appeal may help us review your case sooner.

### **How An Appeal Works**

The Appeals Council will consider whether your case should have been dismissed. It may consider your entire case. The rules the Appeals Council uses are in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 20, Chapter III, Part 404 (Subpart J). The Appeals Council may review my order of dismissal for reasons not stated in your appeal.

The Appeals Council may:

- Deny your appeal,
- Return your case to me or another administrative law judge for a new decision,
- Issue its own decision, or
- Dismiss your case.

The Appeals Council will send you a notice telling you what it decides to do.

### When There Is No Appeals Council Review

If you do not appeal, the Appeals Council does not review my Order of Dismissal on its own, and I do not set aside my order, the action upon which you requested a hearing cannot be changed except under special circumstances.

### Your Right To Representation In An Appeal

If you appeal, you may choose to have an attorney or other person help you. Many

Form HA-L41 (11-2011)

# SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION Office of Disability Adjudication and Review

IN THE CASE OF	CLAIM FOR
V.41 . W.: 0.11	Period of Disability and Disability Insurance
Kathleen Marie Gold	Benefits
(Claimant)	
(Wage Earner)	(Social Security Number)

### ORDER OF DISMISSAL

This case is before the undersigned on a request for hearing dated July 11, 2016. The claimant is unrepresented in this matter.

An Administrative Law Judge may dismiss a request for hearing if neither the claimant nor the person designated to act as the claimant's representative appears at the time and place set for the hearing; if the claimant has been notified before the time set for the hearing that her request for hearing may be dismissed without further notice if she did not appear at the time and place of hearing; and if good cause has not been found by the Administrative Law Judge for the claimant's failure to appear (20 CFR 404.957(b)(1)(i)). In determining good cause, the Administrative Law Judge will consider any physical, mental, education, or linguistic limitations (including any lack of facility with the English language) the claimant may have (20 CFR 404.957(b)(2)).

A Notice of Hearing was mailed to the claimant on January 3, 2018 at the claimant's last known address advising the claimant of the time and place of hearing (Exhibit 9B). The Notice of Hearing contained an explanation of the procedures for requesting a change in the time and place of the claimant's hearing and a reminder that failing to appear at the scheduled hearing without good cause could result in dismissal of the claimant's request for hearing. The Notice of Hearing also asked the claimant to return the enclosed Acknowledgement of Receipt (Notice of Hearing) form to let the Hearing Office know that the claimant had received the notice.

The claimant did not return the Acknowledgment of Receipt (Notice of Hearing) form. Accordingly, the contact procedures required by 20 CFR 404.938 and HALLEX I-2-3-20.B were followed.

Specifically, on March 6, 2018, the Hearing Office mailed the claimant a Notice of Hearing – Important Reminder to remind the claimant to return the Acknowledgment of Receipt (Notice of Hearing) form and to again advise the claimant of the date, time and place of the scheduled hearing (Exhibit 10B). The claimant did not respond to this notice.

On March 19, 2018, claimant called the hearing office stating that she will not be attending her hearing (Exhibit 17E). Also on March 19, 2019, the claimant sent a FAX transmittal to the hearing office again indicating that she would not be attending her hearing (Exhibit 18E, page 3) and 18E).

The claimant did not appear at the hearing scheduled for March 20, 2018 at 12:30 PM Pacifictime.

On March 29, 2018, hearing office staff performed an address and phone number search using the CSR, FACT, and MDW queries in the Social Security Administration databases, which confirmed that the claimant's address and phone number have not changed and that the Notice of Hearing and the Reminder Notice were each sent to the claimant's most recent address on file with the Administration (Exhibit 8D).

On March 29, 2018, hearing office staff performed a search of the Social Security Administration's Prisoner Update Processing System (PUPS) but no records were found to indicate that the claimant was incarcerated at any time relevant to this dismissal. (Exhibit 8D).

A Consolidated Claimant Contact Report summarizes the efforts made by hearing office staff to locate and contact the claimant (Exhibit 11B).

As outlined above, the claimant did not return the acknowledgment form sent with the notice of hearing. However, the contact procedures required by 20 CFR 404.938 and HALLEX §§I-2-4-25.C.3.b and I-2-3-20.B were followed. Additionally, there is no evidence of good cause for the claimant's failure to appear anywhere in the record. Nor is there any evidence present in the record indicating that the claimant suffers from a physical, mental, educational, or linguistic limitation of sufficient severity to prevent the claimant from understanding the notice of hearing, to prevent the claimant from understanding the need to appear at the hearing, or to prevent the claimant from appearing at the hearing. The claimant acknowledged in materials submitted in connection with the application for benefits a high school education and the ability to speak, understand, read, and write in English. The undersigned also notes that although the claimant has been diagnosed with one or more medically determinable mental impairments; that the medical evidence indicates that the claimant's mental impairments produced only mild to moderate symptoms or limitations. (Exhibit 3A/7, 5F). The undersigned finds the claimant's mental impairments are not so severe as to prevent the claimant from understanding the notice of hearing, understanding the need to attend the hearing, or from actually attending the hearing. (20 CFR 404.957 (b)(2), cf. 20 CFR 404.911, SSR 91-5p). Therefore, in accordance with HALLEX I-2-4-25.C.3.a, the undersigned finds that further development of the issue of good cause for the claimant's failure to appear is not necessary.

The undersigned has considered the factors set forth in 20 CFR 404.957 (b)(2) and finds that there is no good cause for the claimant's failure to appear at the time and place of hearing. The record contains no indication that the claimant suffered from any physical, mental, educational, or linguistic limitations — including any lack of facility with the English language — which would have prevented the claimant from understanding the notice of hearing, attending the hearing, or understanding the need to attend the hearing. As mentioned above, the claimant

acknowledged in materials submitted in connection with the application for benefits a high school education and the ability to speak understand, read, and write in English. Additionally, although the claimant does suffer from one or more medically determinable mental impairments, the evidence of record indicates that these mental impairments were not so severe as to prevent the claimant from attending the hearing or understanding the need to attend the hearing. (Exhibit 3A/7, 5F) (cf. 20 CFR 404.911, SSR 91-5p)

Accordingly, the request for hearing dated July 11, 2016 is dismissed and the determination dated May 13, 2016 remains in effect.

Is Brenton L Rogozen

Brenton L Rogozen Administrative Law Judge

April 4, 2018

Date

